

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-19 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) Device to form stacks of objects ~~(9, 9a)~~, the device comprising:

a compartment device ~~(1)~~ with a plurality of compartments ~~(5)~~ moved along the a path, wherein that each compartment is positioned to receive a respective one of a plurality of objects an object (9, 9a),

wherein the path is perpendicular to the compartments of the compartment device,

a transfer device ~~(20)~~ that is moveable to withdraw remove an individual a respective object (9a) from an occupied one of the plurality of compartments ~~(5)~~ and to move insert the respective object ~~(9a)~~ into an empty one of the compartments ~~(5)~~ of the plurality of compartments, and

an ejection device ~~(14)~~ to eject a series of objects ~~(9, 9a)~~ from the plurality of compartments to forming a stack, and

wherein the transfer device moves said respective object from said occupied one of the plurality of compartments to said empty one of the plurality of compartments without changing an orientation of said object.

2. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 1, wherein the transfer device ~~(20)~~ is designed arranged so that it the transfer device inserts the object (9a) into another a compartment ~~(5)~~ of the plurality of compartments that is different than the occupied one of the compartments from which the object was removed.

3. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 1, wherein the transfer device (20) moves the object (9a) in a straight line direction of movement from said occupied one of the plurality of compartments to said empty one of the plurality of compartments. ~~without changing its orientation.~~

4. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 1, wherein the compartment device (1) is ~~designed~~ arranged so that it moves to move the compartments (5) along a path having ~~two~~ at least two approximately parallel sections, ~~whereby~~ wherein the movement in these two sections runs in opposite directions.

5. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 1, wherein the compartments (5) of the compartment device are moved along a closed path with two parallel sides ~~(2a, 2b)~~.

6. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 5, wherein the compartments (5) are on a revolving chain (2).

7. (Currently amended) Device according claim 1, further comprising a supply device (8) that inserts the objects (9, 9a) sequentially into the compartments (5) of the compartment device.

8. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 1, further comprising a device to generate an apparent stoppage of the compartment device (1) at the site of the ejection

device (14).

9. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 1, wherein the transfer device (20) has a servodrive (26) to provide movement in two directions.

10. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 1, wherein the transfer device is designed arranged to transfer a plurality of individual objects (9a) out of and into non-neighborhood compartments (5).

11. (Currently amended) Method to form stacks of objects (9, 9a), the method comprising:

locating ~~the~~ objects (9, 9a) next to each other in compartments (5) within a compartment arrangement to form a series of adjacent objects,

moving the compartments with the objects (9, 9a) along a path perpendicular to the compartment arrangement,

removing a ~~single~~ selected object (9a) from a ~~the~~ series of adjacent objects to provide at least one empty compartment (9, 9a), and

wherein inserting the selected object is inserted into an a selected empty compartment positioned between two compartments containing respective objects (5), and

wherein ejecting a the series of objects (9, 9a) now forming a stack is ejected together out of the compartments (5).

12. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 11, wherein ~~an individual~~ the selected object (9a) is inserted into a different compartment (5) of the compartment arrangement series than the compartment (5) from which ~~it~~ the selected object was removed.

13. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 11, wherein the selected object (9a) does not change its orientation while ~~it~~ the selected object is being ~~removed from~~ moved out of one compartment (5) and inserted into another compartment (5).

14. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 11, wherein the compartments (5) are moved along a path having ~~two~~ at least two approximately parallel sections, ~~whereby~~ wherein the movements in these two sections run in ~~the~~ opposite directions.

15. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 11, wherein the compartments (5) are moved along a closed path with two parallel sides ~~(2a, 2b)~~.

16. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 11, wherein the compartments (5) are moved with the aid of a revolving chain (2), and a belt, ~~etc.~~

17. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 11, wherein the objects ~~(9, 9a)~~ are inserted sequentially into the compartments (5).

18. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 11, the movement of the series of compartments ~~(5)~~ is brought to an apparent standstill while the objects ~~(9, 9a)~~ are being ejected from the compartments ~~(5)~~.

19. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 11, wherein a plurality of individual objects ~~(9a)~~ are simultaneously removed from compartments ~~(5)~~ and simultaneously inserted into compartments ~~(5)~~.